

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9306

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 12634

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS,PU,ID

SUBJECT: GUINEA-BISSAU; GOI POSITION

REFS: A. STATE 210370 B. STATE 208857 C. STATE 208369

D. STATE 208745 (NOTAL)

1. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE UNWISE AND COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE GOI TO VOTE AGAINST OR ABSTAIN IN SECURITY COUNCIL ON ISSUE OF UN MEMBERSHIP FOR PORTUGUESE GUINEA (GUINEA-BISSAU) (REF A).

2. INDONESIA IS GOVERNED BY MEN WHO PARTICIPATED IN REVOLUTION AND SOUGHT (AND GOT FROM SOME) RECOGNITION BEFORE IT WAS EXTENDED (E.G., BY U.S.) AND HAS BASIC SYMPATHY FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN FREEDOM FROM COLONIAL POWERS (REF B INDICATES INDONESIA MAY RECOGNIZE GUINEA-BISSAU AND IT SEEMS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THE GOI WOULD COUPLE SUCH RECOGNITION WITH REFUSAL TO SUPPORT UN MEMBERSHIP.) INDONESIAN SEPARATIST MOVEMENTS ALLUDED TO IN REF A INVOLVED DISSENSION BETWEEN PEOPLE OF SAME RACE AND GOI WILL NOT SEE A PARALLEL IN PORTUGUESE GUINEA-BISSAU
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CASE. GOI HAS AT TIMES INDICATED IT WOULD BY SYMPATHETIC TO

INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR, BUT FINDING NONE
MAINTAINS AMICABLE RELATIONS WITH EXISTING AUTHORITIES.
(WE KNOW THAT INDONESIA EXPECTS TIMORESE IN DUE COURSE TO SEEK
INDEPENDENCE FROM PORTUGUESE.)

3. SIMILARLY, INDONESIA WILL SEE NO PARALLEL BETWEEN KHMER AND
GUINEA-BISSAU CASES GIVEN THE COLONIAL ASPECT AND THE
DIFFERING ATTITUDES OF THE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES (PARA 5 OF
REF D DESCRIBES THE DIFFERENCES QUITE COGENTLY).

4. FOR THE ABOVE REASONS I FEEL THAT AN APPROACH TO THE GOI
ON THE GUINEA-BISSAU ISSUE WOULD NOT CCOMPLISH THE DESIRED
PURPOSE, WOULD TO SOME EXTENT SOUR THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD US,
AND WOULD PROBABLY LESSEN OUR CHANCES OF OBTAINING GOI
COOPERATION ON ISSUES WHERE THEY MIGHT FIND IT POLITICALLY
POSSIBLE TO ASSIST US. FURTHER, I BELIEVE GOI WOULD FEEL
THAT IF IT WERE TO VOTE AGAINST OR ABSTAIN ON THE GUINEA-BISSAU
ISSUE, INDONESIA'S NON-ALIGNED CREDENTIALS WOULD BE SO
BADLY TARNISHED AS TO WEAKEN HER IN ASSISTING THE KHMER AND
ON OTHER ISSUES WHERE ASSISTANCE OF FRIENDLY NON-ALIGNEDS
IS REQUIRED.
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